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IN THE CLAIMS:

1 to 17 (canceled).

18. (Currently Amended) An alternating current type plasma display comprising: a back substrate and a front substrate provided ~~to~~ as to face each other with a gas discharge space sandwiched between the back and front substrates; a pair of electrodes, covered with a dielectric layer, provided on one or both of the substrates; and a protective layer provided on the dielectric layer, the protective layer being produced by coating a coating liquid, substantially containing a partial hydrolyzate ~~derived from an alkaline earth metal compound having a hydrolysable reaction site~~ prepared from a composition comprising an alkaline earth metal compound comprising a magnesium alkoxide and an additive comprising a diethanolamine, on a dielectric layer provided on a substrate and heating the coating.

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19. (Currently Amended) The alternating current type plasma display according to claim 18, wherein the ~~partial hydrolyzate is prepared substantially from a composition comprising~~ further comprises

~~(1) an alkaline earth metal compound having a hydrolysable reaction site,~~

~~—— (2) an additive which can function to dissolve or disperse the alkaline earth metal compound in a solvent and to permit the hydrolysis of the alkaline earth metal compound to proceed in a rate-controlling manner,~~

~~—— (3) water is~~ in an amount not more than a stoichiometric amount relative to the hydrolysable reaction site of the magnesium alkoxide, and

~~(4) an organic solvent.~~

20. (Currently Amended) An alternating current type plasma display comprising: a back substrate and a front substrate provided so as to face each other with a gas discharge space sandwiched between the back and front substrates; a pair of electrodes, covered with a dielectric layer, provided on one or

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both of the substrates; and a protective layer provided on the dielectric layer, the protective layer comprising an alkaline earth metal oxide film formed by coating a coating liquid, substantially containing a partial hydrolyzate prepared from a composition comprising

(1) an alkaline earth metal compound having a hydrolysable reaction site,

(2) an additive ~~which~~ that can function to dissolve or disperse the alkaline earth metal compound in an organic solvent and to permit the hydrolysis of the alkaline earth metal compound to proceed in a rate-controlling manner, and

(3) an organic solvent,  
on a dielectric layer provided on a substrate and heating the coating, wherein the alkaline earth metal compound is a magnesium alkoxide and the additive is a diethanolamine.

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21. and 22 (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) The alternating current type plasma display according to claim 18, wherein the alkaline earth metal oxide film is formed of magnesium oxide particles having a diameter of not more than 0.3  $\mu\text{m}$ .

24. to 27. (Canceled)